

evaluate ocean carriers' practices for port calls and cargo bookings, as well as the impact of preferential berthing afforded under our bill. A similar data-collection provision sponsored by U.S. Senator ROGER F. WICKER's (R-MS) on container and chassis availability is incorporated as Section 16 (Dwell Time Statistics) of the Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-146), of which I was the House sponsor.

Madam Speaker, I urge all members to co-sponsor the American Port Access Privileges Act to ensure fair trade for U.S. businesses and keep hard-won foreign markets accessible to California's agricultural exporters. As a senior member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the former ranking member of the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation from the 113th to the 115th Congresses, I plan to make this legislation a major priority.

HONORING KERI K. GRIFFIN AS A
DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CEN-
TRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE
MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Keri Griffin has been working as a clinical social worker since 1996. Keri's first job was working in detox at Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton, Ohio. Keri then graduated from the University of Dayton in 1997 with a major in psychology and minors in social work and sociology. Keri graduated with her master's in social work from the University of Maryland School of Social Work in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1999 with a clinical concentration and substance abuse specialization.

While working on her master's, Keri worked at the Social Work Community Outreach Service at Maree Farring Elementary School and with the University of Maryland Medical System intensive outpatient program and maternal substance abuse and acupuncture program. After graduating with her master's, Keri continued to work in Baltimore at the Johns Hopkins University Cornerstone program and the University of Maryland Medical System comprehensive recovery program. Keri moved to Florida in 2000 and became a licensed clinical social worker and a certified addictions professional in the state of Florida. Keri has worked with Lakeside Alternatives at the Orange Regional Juvenile Detention Center, at the Center for Drug-Free Living Addiction Receiving Facility, as well as at the Women's Residential Program in Kissimmee and at Mental Health Network.

For almost 17 years, Keri has worked at the Orlando VA Health Care System. Keri worked for her first 5 years at the VA in the alcohol and drug abuse treatment program and for 12 years as a therapist in the mental health clinic. For the past 12 years, Keri has served in collateral duty roles as the Orlando VA's LGBTQ+ special emphasis program manager and veteran care coordinator—providing support and services for employees and veteran patients as well as training and education, outreach, and development of community partnerships. Through dedication and hard work, Keri

was able to facilitate and elevate the LGBTQ+ veteran care program coordinator to a full-time position at the OVAHCS as of Fiscal Year 2021-22. Keri serves as the VA VISN 8 LGBTQ+ veteran care coordinator lead, is the national LGBTQ+ VCC lead forum lead, developed and facilitates a monthly inter-disciplinary LGBTQ+ treatment team at the OVAHCS, and chairs the OVAHCS LGBTQ+ special emphasis program working closely with the diversity and inclusion team and the EEO at the OVAHCS.

Due to her hard work with the LGBTQ+ veteran population at the VA, Keri received national I CARE awards in 2015, 2018, 2020, and 2021, the VA Social Worker of the Year Award for 2016, and a National Special Contribution Award in 2016 for her contributions after the Pulse tragedy. Keri recently received a Certificate of Special Recognition for Federal Employee of the Year, Honorable Mention, for Service to the Community for Central Florida 2022.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH
BIRTHDAY OF AMY LANGDON

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Amy Langdon on the occasion of her 100th birthday. Her contributions to our community as a Rosie the Riveter are worthy of commendation.

Born on July 25, 1922, Mrs. Langdon was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan, she attended Northern High School until her family moved to Huntington Woods, Michigan prior to her senior year. She graduated from Royal Oak High School in 1940. She later attended Michigan State University where she studied History. During her summers off from college she worked at Hudson's in Downtown Detroit. In 1943 she was offered the opportunity to serve her country and work at the Highland Park Ford plant where she did the electrical wiring on the M-5 Director, which determined the altitude of an aerial targets. Working on this confidential project, she didn't know the names of the other women she worked with and wasn't able to tell her family about her top-secret job. She played a critical role in supporting American troops overseas and provided for the defense of our soldiers during World War II. As one of the original Rosie the Riveters, Amy's hard work, grit, and patriotism not only sustained the American war effort, but paved a path for the next generation of working women.

While attending Michigan State University she met her husband, who served in the United States Air Force. She traveled to the military base by train on her own and they married on March 20, 1945. Together they spent their life raising their family and traveling to over fifty-five countries. In her spare time, she is an avid golfer, puzzle enthusiast, and talented oil painter. The longest running volunteer in Beaumont hospital history, she has delivered mail to patients for over forty-five years until COVID hit. An active member of her community and a friend to all, she is a longtime member of Philanthropic Educational Opportunities for Women and multiple garden

clubs. Beloved by her family, she made sure that she hosted Thanksgiving every year. The biggest Michigan State sports fan, she never misses a football or basketball game.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating Amy Langdon on her 100th birthday. I join with her family—including her two children, two grandchildren, and two great grandchildren and friends in extending my best and warmest wishes to her on this special day and as they dedicate a rosebush in her honor at the Ross McFadden House in Dearborn. I am proud to honor her life, her accomplishments, and her invaluable contributions to our nation as a Rosie the Riveter. Today we should all live by her motto as we celebrate one hundred years of Amy—Yesterday is gone, tomorrow isn't here yet, I live for today.

HONORING MR. PEDRO "PETE"
MORALES

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life achievements of Mr. Pedro "Pete" Morales, in celebration of his 80th birthday. Born June 22, 1942, Mr. Morales has selflessly served his community in Red Hook, Brooklyn for over 73 years.

When he was a boy, Pete Morales' family was one of the first from Puerto Rico to move into Red Hook public housing. Being a minority among Irish and Italian immigrants made them a target. Pete's father had to send his son back to Puerto Rico for a period after Pete's younger brother Nelson was badly beaten. Nevertheless, Pete returned to Red Hook to box every one of his brother's attackers and grew to get along with everybody regardless of nationality or ethnicity. Everyone grew to love Pete.

As Commissioner of the Red Hook Youth baseball league, Pete Morales coached generations of kids growing up in his beloved community. Pete has also been a voice for tenant rights, affordable housing and served as an active member of Fifth Avenue Committee's advisory board for new affordable housing in the neighborhood. Pete has also been a tireless advocate for the environment and better neighborhood conditions through Red Hook Groups Against Garbage Sites (GAGS) which fought a massive trash incinerator and countless solid waste transfer stations seeking to cluster in the community which were successfully reversed. Mr. Morales has long served at Visitation Church as a Eucharistic Minister and continues to be a recognized elder.

Mr. Morales remains a solid pillar of the community, well respected by generations of neighbors, leaders, and the local clergy from his decades of community service. Through his life-long dedication to his community, Pete Morales has made Red Hook a better place to live. I thank Mr. Pedro Morales for his public service and offer him best wishes for a well-deserved and happy 80th birthday.

HONORING JASON HARRIS AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Jason Harris is a Florida native who completed his master's degree in community psychology at Florida A&M University. Jason has a wealth of clinical experience across a variety of settings, including inpatient specialty clinics such as juvenile detention centers and Federal/state prison(s), crisis intervention, structured outpatient programs, inpatient psychiatric, and large non-profits.

Jason has a broad range of clinical experience working with individuals and groups across the life span in the areas of anxiety, substance abuse, behavioral and discipline challenges, self-harm behavior, anger, stress management, trauma, abuse, family, relationship issues, suicide assessment, risk reduction, group psychotherapy, and self-image and self-esteem issues.

Jason's approach emphasizes the mutual development of goals for therapy and the provision of ongoing evaluation of the therapeutic approach. Jason is invested in emphasizing a more integrative, dynamic, cultural, and holistic approach to mental health.

Jason is currently the lead therapist working with juveniles from ages 13 to 21. The program is a 9 to 12 residential commitment program—Kissimmee Youth Academy, Youth Opportunity Investments, LLC—where the youth are given weekly individual sessions, daily group therapy sessions, and monthly family sessions. In addition, Jason is one of the therapists/allies/members with The Center Orlando providing emotional support and counseling to LGBTQIA+ community members. Through his efforts and commitment, Jason is dedicated to providing hope for a better and brighter tomorrow through healing, emotional regulation, and progressive counsel.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PELL GRANT

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the Pell Grant Program.

In 1972, Congress amended the Higher Education Act by creating the Basic Educational Opportunity Grant to provide direct financial aid to low-income students so they would have the same access to higher education and opportunity for success as their higher income peers. But this process was not without its trials and tribulations. It is not lost on me the incredible tenacity of the late Lois Dickson Rice—the “mother of the Pell Grant”—whose work with the College Entrance Examination Board was instrumental in the creation of the Basic Education Opportunity Grant later named the Pell Grant for its original sponsor, the late Senator Claiborne Pell, Democrat from Rhode Island.

I want to take a moment to speak about a constituent of mine who is spending her summer working in my office, Fatimah Toure. She is a rising senior at Seton Hall University studying political science and Africana Studies. She is one of over 27,000 Pell Grant recipients in New Jersey's 10th congressional district and a scholar of the campus-based Equal Opportunity Program (EOP). As a first generation American and low-income student, the Pell Grant has allowed Fatimah to achieve and complete her higher education without financial worries. She told me that “College was always part of my plan, but I didn't know how to pay for it. I didn't want to burden my parents and be the reason they couldn't retire, but I also didn't want to take out thousands of dollars in loans. The Pell Grant assisted me and my family in ensuring we can achieve our American dream.” By virtue of qualifying for the Pell Grant, Fatimah and 49 other low-income students were admitted into Seton Hall's EOP, where they were enrolled in intensive academic courses and formed long-lasting bonds over a 6-week period before they began their freshman year. Not only did the Pell Grant and Educational Opportunity Program provide financial assistance for Fatimah, but she was also afforded academic support: tutoring, structured study, academic advisement, summer courses, community service opportunities, internships, and counseling services throughout her college experience.

The program leveled the playing field, so Fatimah was not financially, academically, or socially isolated. The benefits of the Pell Grant have not only served Fatimah, but also two of her siblings, one of whom is a graduate from Rowan University, and the other a rising senior at Rutgers University. To date, more than 80 million students have received a Pell Grant to go to college since the program's creation. Currently, nearly 7 million students are going to college with Pell Grants, or about 40 percent of undergraduate students.

In New Jersey's 10th district, 27,085 students receive nearly \$121 million to pursue their higher education goals at our local colleges. Rutgers University, with one of its campuses located in Newark within my district, has more than 18,000 Pell recipients, providing over \$91 million in aid each year to students. Roughly 60 percent of Rutgers—Newark students receive Pell Grants, which is instrumental in their pursuit of higher education.

During this month as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Pell Grant program, I encourage the United States to celebrate “National Pell Grant Day,” recognizing the current students and successful graduates who have benefited from the program by telling their student success stories and encouraging the same access for future students.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to Congress continuing the bipartisan support for low-income student access to college through the Pell Grant for another 50 years. I am proud to join many of my colleagues on the bipartisan resolution declaring June 23, 2022, National Pell Grant Day this year, and in many years in the future.

RECOGNIZING JEROME “BIG DUCK” SMITH, CIVIL RIGHTS PIONEER AND FREEDOM RIDER

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jerome “Big Duck” Smith, a New Orleans Native Civil Rights Pioneer and Icon of the Freedom Riders.

Jerome “Big Duck” Smith, a life-long resident of New Orleans, Louisiana, is considered a stalwart of the Civil Rights Movement locally and nationally.

It was 72 years ago that Jerome Smith, then 10 years old, removed the screen that acted as a barrier between white and black passengers on a New Orleans streetcar. “The streetcar became very hostile,” Smith recalls. The event took place 5 years before Rosa Parks energized the civil rights movement on December 1, 1955, when she refused to give up her bus seat to a white passenger in Montgomery, Alabama.

Smith says that as he sat in the white section of the streetcar in Louisiana, an older black woman from the rear of the car descended on him, hitting him so hard that “It felt like there was a bell ringing in my head.” The woman loudly said she would teach the boy a lesson, telling him, “You should never do that, disrespect white people. You have no business trying to sit with them.”

She forced Smith off the streetcar, and around the back of an auto store. But once they were behind the building, the woman's tone changed. “Never, ever stop,” the woman told Smith as she began to cry. “I'm proud of you,” she said. “Don't you ever quit.”

Smith's involvement in the Civil Rights Movement dates back to the late 1950s when he joined the New Orleans chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality (“CORE”) as a 19-year-old student at Southern University of New Orleans. From boycotting stores that refused to hire or serve Blacks to sit-ins along Canal Street, CORE's substantial contributions were integral to the Civil Rights Movement from 1960 onward. Speaking of CORE, the late Rudy Lombard stated, “They had ‘a certain confidence,’ . . . because they came out of a culture that was so rich. They knew that everything that was unique about the city could be traced to the Black presence.”

Thereafter, Smith challenged Federal desegregation laws across the South as a member of the Freedom Riders. Throughout his travels, Smith participated in numerous protests that resulted in battle wounds. In fact, Smith had been beaten at least 12 times by mobs or police during the struggle. On May 24, 1963, Smith met with Attorney General Robert Kennedy and a host of celebrities and civil rights leaders in New York City to discuss the state of civil rights in the United States. During this meeting, it is said Smith emotionally told the United States' Attorney General, “I've seen you guys [from the Justice Department] stand around and take notes while we're being beaten.” Despite grave injustice and adversity of the times, Smith made a profound impact on civil rights history.

Beyond the Civil Rights Movement, Smith continued to impact our city, particularly in the Tremé Community in New Orleans, Louisiana.